

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, September 20. 1707.

From an Age full of Contradictions and Politick Mysteries, some necessary Observations might be made, if the Times would bear them—— But let them bear them or not, they shall not fail to hear them of me, while I can speak or write, without the least Regard to Human Resentment, let the Danger be what it will.

Truth fears no Man's Anger, and Demonstration is not to be insulted; just Observations are the Duty of an Author, and as needful to Human Instruction, as Truth it self, and therefore as justifiable; all the Risque I can run therefore, is of making presumptuous Suggestions, unjust Reflections, and unnecessary Consequences—— And be that to my self— I'll take the Hazard cheerfully, while I think the Work necessary.

While Protestant Malecontents choose a Popish King to dethrone their Sovereign, and cry, *'Tis to preserve their Religion—* While a Protestant King quarters his Troops upon a Protestant Country, in order to restore their Churches; shall these be call'd Zealous and Heroes? Shall this be call'd Fighting for the Cause of GOD?— 'Tis blaspheming the Protestant Religion, and affronting all the rest of the Protestant Princes of *Europe*.

When One witholds the Quota's of his Troops he is oblig'd to furnish to a Protestant Confederacy—— The Other takes Assistance from *France* to help them maintain themselves against the Emperor. Are these Friends to the Protestant Religion? GOD forbid, I should pray for Success to either, in so far as they act, either intentionally

tionally or virtually, against the present Confederacy, which is the Bond of *Europe's* Liberty.

Either the present Confederacy is the Foundation under GOD of the Protestant Interest, or is it not; *If it is not*, let them tell us, upon what *Human Basis* could it have stood, if *France* had not been broken in Power by this Conjunction, and how long could the Protestant Religion have stood in the World, if *France* had prevail'd? *If it is*, then every Prince, or State, or Nation, that lessens, that weakens, that Negatively, *by not assisting when oblig'd*, or Positively, *by acting against it*, injures, invades or fights against any Branch of this Confederacy, invades, injures and fights against the Protestant Interest in the World, and, *so far as they do so*, are our Enemies, and ought to be fought against, and pray'd against, by every true Subject of this Nation? *As such*, let them be *Swedes* or *Hungarians*, or whatsoever Prince, State or Nation they will, the differing Circumstances make no Difference here.

Let the *Hungarians* obtain their Liberties, Civil and Sacred, and I shall be glad to hear they had them peaceably secur'd: Let the *Silesians* have their Churches restored, and I'll rejoyce in these Settlements of a Religious People: —But if it be their Disaster to struggle for these, when the whole Protestant Interest is struggling for Life, and their Case clashes with the general Interest of Religion; I say, like blowing up Houses in a Fire-Time, the lesser Evil must be submitted to, to avoid the greater: It were better the *Hungarian* Protestants were rooted from the Face of the Earth, the *Swede* and all his Army cut in pieces by the *Muscovite*, *tho' GOD forbid it should so happen*, than that *France* should overthrow this Confederacy, on which the whole Protestant Interest, and the Peace and Liberty of *Europe*, entirely depend.

GOD forbid, I or any honest Man should go with them GOD speed; *may I die a Martyr* to this Truth, if call'd to it, which I speak without any Concern; the *Swedes* and the *Hungarians* have been the Ruin of *Europe*, the Enemies of Religion, and the

Sanctuary of *France* — And in vain shall the Rage of Men or Devils oppose me in this Truth.

Let it be cast up fairly, and let it be put into the Ballance of Power, and let any Man tell me—How many Hands has the Contingent of the *Swede's* being deny'd, taken off from the Armies of the Confederates?—How many Regiments has the *Hungarian War* torn away from the Confederacy? What Breathing has it given to *France*, that these Additions were not given to the Imperial Troops? Does *France* out-number us? —Where is General *Rabutin* and *Staremberg* with the Imperial Armies, and what might not the Confederates have done to humble the *French Power*, had not these been deny'd on one Hand, and call'd away on the other?

Had the Imperial Troops, now fighting against the *Hungarians*, been joyn'd to Prince *Eugene*, 36 Battalions of *Hessian*, *Prussian*, and *Palatine* Troops might have stay'd on the *Rhine*, and prevented the Empire's being insulted; had 6000 *Swedes* been added to the Margrave of *Baireith*, the Lines of *Stolboffen* had not been insulted, nor the brave Duke of *Wirtemberg* ruin'd — Or had the Imperial Armies now in *Hungaria* been in *Spain*, the Battle of *Almanza* had never been lost, nor King *Charles* been driven away from *Madrid*; *Phillip V.* had been a Refugee at *Paris*, and *Spain* been settled by this Time in the House of *Austria*!

If the Protestant Religion be the Cause we defend, and the Cause of the *Hungarians* is Part of it; then the King of *France* is a Champion of the Protestant Religion, for he has been a great Support to, and is still assisting the *Hungarians* — And this very thing might open our Eyes — Why does the King of *France* assist the *Hungarians*? — I affirm this to be a just Answer, He does is not in Love to the Protestant Religion, but to pull down the Protestant Religion — The King of *France* is far from a weak Prince, he knows his Interest but too well — He knows, if he conquers this Confederacy, he overthrows at once the Protestant Interest, and *Europe's* Liberty — And he assists the

the *Hungarians* to weaken this Confederacy. —Turn the Tables— By the same plain Rule, the *Hungarians* are at this time, I do not say designedly so, but really and eventually they are, mortal Enemies to the present Confederacy, to the Liberty of *Europe*, and the Protestant Religion.

The very Article of the *Hungarian* War keeps 50000 Men out of the Confederacy, with whole Help, added to what we have, *France* had been inevitably overthrown, and *Europe* by this Time been at Peace.

Had it been at another Time, I should have bless'd and pray'd for Success to the *Hungarians* and the *Swedes*, and joyc'd in the Recovery of the Liberty and Religion of the *Silesian* and *Bohemian* Churches— But to do it now, to wish them Success against the Emperor now, would be to curse my Native Country, to pray for the Destruction of the Protestant Allies, to betray the Liberties of *Europe*, to mock GOD in a most horrid Manner, by praying to him to abandon his Church, and pull down the Kingdom of Christ in the World. In short, it would be to build with one Finger, and pull down with both Hands; it would be nourishing a Gangreen, and buying an Arm with the Price of the Life; it would be cutting the Throats of our innocent Children, and surrendering our Posterity up to Bondage and Idolatry.

'Tis a most astonishing Blindness, that possesses our Minds, that we cannot distinguish of Protestants faithfully knit together for the mutual Defence of their sacred and civil Privileges, and Protestants pursuing their own separate Advantages, and prosecuting ambitious Designs—— A little thinking would set all to rights.

The Protestants in *Hungaria* are certainly upon a just Foot with the Emperor, at least in so far as he denies them Peace and Liberty— But as to Prince *Ragotski* claiming *Transylvania*, or rejecting Peace, tho' Liberty and Religion were secur'd, I know not what to call that; it may be right as to *Transylvania*, but it can never be a Religious Reason, why they in *Hungary* should not accept of a good Peace.

On the other hand, as to the Confederacy against *France*, what can we say? Can we say, the *Hungarians* are not fatally Enemies to this Confederacy, I mean consequential Enemies? —Can any Man deny their diverting our Confederate Forces, and leaving Gaps and Chasms in our Armies, at which the *French* Power breaks in to devour us? Unhappy *Hungarians*! that your Liberties and your Religion should be set up at the Rate of pulling down the Liberty and Religion of all *Europe*—— That your Contest should come on the Stage of the World, at a Time when it clashes with the Cause of GOD, and when you, as it were, put Heaven to the Necessity, either to suppress you, abandon his Interest in the World, or else to act out of the ordinary Course of Nature, and bring Miracles to pass to reconcile the contradictting Circumstances.

'Tis very hard, that where a War has run so severely upon *Europe*, where we in this Island have been at such Expence of Blood and Money, that it should be made difficult to us, by such as are our Friends, our Brethren, and whom we love, and at another Time would chearfully assist.

Hark, how the Novelty sounds when put into *English*! That Protestants should pull down Protestants, and build up Popery; that a Nation should take up Arms for the Protestant Religion, and then set up over them a Popish King! —A Blessed Ally we should have, if he sought to come in to us, to have the Elector of *Bavaria* made King of *Hungaria*! And how should we expect that Prince, who is one of the greatest Bigotts of Popery in the World, should protect the Protestants either in their Liberty or Religion? And yet this Prince, we are told, is one of the Candidates, that puts in for the Crown of *Hungaria*—An admirable Testimony, that the Malecontents of *Hungary* are Protestants; much such another as the Killing the Son of the *Sieur Ocloczyni* was, who was cut in pieces in their Parliament at *Onrod*, for moving them to make Peace, and was a profess'd Protestant.

These